

AMENDMENTSIn the Claims

Please cancel claims 15-31 and 45-58 without prejudice.

No claims have been amended.

Claims 1-14 and 32-44 are pending and are listed following:

1. (original) A data communication system configured to communicatively link a host device and a client device with a point-to-point data communication link, the host device and the client device each configured for multipoint data communication over a distributed network, the data communication system comprising:

a data communication interface driver configured to communicatively link with a data communication interface of the host device via the point-to-point data communication link;

a virtual driver component configured to communicate with the data communication interface driver and the client device; and

a virtual network configured to communicatively link the data communication interface driver and the virtual driver component.

1           2.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
2     wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver  
3     Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a  
4     Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the Remote NDIS  
5     driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

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7           3.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
8     wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver  
9     Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a  
10    Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages  
11    with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

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13          4.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
14    wherein the virtual network is a local area network.

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16          5.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
17    wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver  
18    Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate with the virtual  
19    driver component via the virtual network.

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21          6.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
22    wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver  
23    Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate Remote NDIS  
24    messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.  
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1           7.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
2     wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver  
3     Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a  
4     Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the Remote NDIS  
5     driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and the Remote NDIS  
6     driver is configured to communicate with the virtual driver component via the  
7     virtual network.

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9           8.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
10    wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver  
11    Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a  
12    Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages  
13    with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and  
14    the Remote NDIS driver is configured to communicate the Remote NDIS  
15    messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

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17          9.     (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
18    further comprising a connection interface configured to couple the point-to-point  
19    data communication link with the client device.

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21          10.    (original)   A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
22    further comprising a Universal Serial Bus data communication interface  
23    configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the client  
24    device.  
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1           **11. (original)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
2 further comprising a 1394 bus data communication interface configured to couple  
3 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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5           **12. (original)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
6 further comprising a wireless data communication interface configured to couple  
7 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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9           **13. (original)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
10 further comprising a Bluetooth data communication interface configured to couple  
11 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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13           **14. (original)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1,  
14 further comprising an infrared data communication interface configured to couple  
15 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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17           **15-31. (canceled)**  
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1       **32. (original)** A method for implementing a point-to-point data  
2 communication link between computing devices, the method comprising:

3       providing a network communication component designed for data  
4 communication over a distributed network;

5       providing a connection interface to couple the network communication  
6 component with a host computing device; and

7       providing a virtual network to communicatively link the network  
8 communication component and a virtual driver component of a client computing  
9 device.

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11       **33. (original)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
12 network communication component includes providing a data communication  
13 interface driver to communicatively link with a data communication interface of  
14 the host computing device via the point-to-point data communication link.

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16       **34. (original)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
17 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver  
18 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicatively link with a Remote  
19 NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-point data  
20 communication link.

1           35.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
2 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver  
3 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicate Remote NDIS messages  
4 with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-  
5 point data communication link.

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7           36.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
8 connection interface includes providing a point-to-point data communication  
9 protocol interface.

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11           37.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
12 connection interface includes providing a Universal Serial Bus data  
13 communication interface.

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15           38.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
16 connection interface includes providing a 1394 bus data communication interface.

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18           39.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
19 connection interface includes providing a wireless data communication interface.

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21           40.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
22 connection interface includes providing a Bluetooth data communication interface.  
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1       41.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
2 connection interface includes providing an infrared data communication interface.

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4       42.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
5 virtual network includes providing a virtual local area network.

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7       43.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
8 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver  
9 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver, and wherein providing the virtual network  
10 includes providing a virtual local area network to communicate Remote NDIS  
11 messages between the Remote NDIS driver and the virtual driver component.

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13       44.   (original)   A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the  
14 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver  
15 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicate Remote NDIS messages  
16 with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-  
17 point data communication link, and wherein providing the virtual network  
18 includes providing a virtual local area network to communicate the Remote NDIS  
19 messages between the Remote NDIS driver and the virtual driver component.

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21       45-58. (canceled)